CLAIMS:

1.   A method of prefetching a referenced resource, comprising the steps of:
-       determining a group of references (107) to resources from a given first resource (106),   *links to other pages*
-       for each reference (107) to a resource in the group, computing a respective
5   weight and assigning it to the reference (107),
-       determining a reference from the group having a maximal respective weight, and
-       prefetching the resource referenced by that reference, characterized in that the respective weight for a reference (107) is computed based on the
10   number of times (202) the resource referenced by that reference (107) has been fetched previously, and on the number of times (203) one or more further resources have been fetched previously from a server (102, 103, 104) that serves the resource referenced by the reference (107).

15   2.   A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of prefetching further resources referenced by references (107) from the group in the order of their respective weights.

3.   A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the computation of the respective
20   weight is further based on one or more keywords from a description of the resource referenced by the reference (107).

4.   A device (100) for prefetching a referenced resource, comprising
•   link determination means (110) for determining a group of references (107) to resources
25   from a given first resource (106),
•   link weighting means (111) for computing, for each reference (107) to a resource in the group, a respective weight and assigning it to the reference (107),
•   choosing means (112) for choosing from the group a first reference having a maximal respective weight, and

- prefetching means (113) for prefetching a resource referenced by that first reference, characterized in that the link weighting means (111) are arranged to compute the respective weight for a reference (107) based on the number of times (202) the resource referenced by that reference (107) has been fetched previously, and on the number of times (203) one or more further resources have been fetched previously from a server (102, 103, 104) that serves the resource referenced by the reference (107).

5. A device (100) as claimed in claim 4, wherein the prefetching means (113) are further arranged for prefetching further resources referenced by references (107) from the group in the order of their respective weights.

6. A device (100) as claimed in claim 4, wherein the link weighting means (111) are further arranged to compute the respective weight further based on one or more keywords from a description of the resource referenced by the reference (107).

7. A computer program product enabling a programmable device when executing said computer program product to function as the device (100) of claim 4.

8. The computer program product of claim 7, comprising a world-wide web browser.

9. The computer program product of claim 7, comprising a caching proxy server.